

HAMLIN

General comment: it would be more helpful if consultant talked less and asked more pointed/specific questions.

Theme 1- Areas of Change and Stability

Is this the right line for the Station Area?

- The shopping area bounded by University, St. Anthony, Snelling, and Griggs needs to be looked at together. This entire area is a mismatch with no sense of design, place, or functionality.
- It would be helpful if the SAP lines extended south of 94, because residents will be accessing amenities and homes in that area. Concordia is also south of 1-94. Charter school on Marshall.

Are there sites which are under pressure to redevelop or relocate that are a concern to you? For example, a heritage buildings?

- There is pressure to redevelop, especially the bus barn. It seems the city has no will to bring forth its transit-oriented development plan.
- Possibly add strip mall to opportunity for change.

Theme 2 – 90 Initiatives for the Corridor

What adjectives would you use to describe the character of this area today? And in 20 years?

- Today: the worst our city has. Good transit-oriented development always undermined by variances. Unsafe, unfriendly for walking, biking, busing, and even driving. Ugly, big box. A blight on Saint Paul. A concrete mess. If the City continues to ignore its own plans, we will have more of the same.
- Now: auto oriented, gritty. 20 years: healthy, active, vibrant, safe, accessible.
- Vibrant, multicultural, family oriented, diversity.

What additional improvements would you like to see around this station?

- Buildings and land uses- more retail shopping, family restaurants, lodging, coffee shops/delis *Note: Need to promote entrepreneurship within the community to foster economic development, especially for communities of color.

What are the top 3 improvements that would make the greatest difference to this station area?

- 1. Improved flow of ped, bikes, buses and cars. 2. No more big box instead of TOD. We are not a suburb! 3. Greening the area, means reducing surface parking for example.

What would you like to see happen at the Marketplace?

- I would really like this torn down. It is a hodgepodge of many windowless boxes. Short of that, I would like the shopping areas from Griggs to be treated as one piece, with improved streets, bike and walking paths going through and around. With green space added in the sites and around. Better scale, mixed use.

Theme 3 – Public Realm Framework

How would you get to this station on foot or by bicycle?

- Good question. Hamline is the only option now. It is not safe for peds or bikers.
- Consider south of 94 – Ayd Mill bridge

What kind of public spaces should there be and where should these be located?

- share history of Rondo neighborhood, display artwork of local artists

Where should key pedestrian crossings be located?

- *From Skyline to platform.*

Where should bicycle locks be located?

- LRT platform, outside of businesses, Skyline Towers.

How could we make better connections south of I-94?

- Ayd Mill Road bike/ped accommodations. Bike/ped accommodations on I-94 overpass.

VICTORIA

Theme 1- Areas of Change and Stability

Is this the right line for the Station Area?

- Note: positive impacts will impact a larger area. USGBC recognizes people will walk ¼ mile to a bus, but ½ mile to LRT.
- Yes.
- Yes. However we should keep in mind that the residents and the business owners concern beyond or farther than that.
- Yes, with caution around redeveloping the residential blocks on University. Preserve structures for non-profits, artists, coffee shops, boutiques.
- Yes, tight and low change.
- Yes, but it will change. Bus connection noise, will we hear it all day? Can we do anything to our homes to reduce?

Should additional areas be included or omitted within either the Areas of Change and/or Stability?

- Victoria Theater should be included.
- Factor in access/experience along Victoria – connecting up to Minnehaha (urban farm) and to Grand (shopping/William Mitchell).
- No, keep the area of change small.
- Yes and no. Schools – no. Bars – no.

Are there sites which are under pressure to redevelop or relocate that are a concern to you? For example, a heritage buildings?

- Please save the Victoria Theatre (825 University) and rehab it to its original use.
- There will be major changes going to happen during to construction and after – some businesses will go out and some new ones will come.
- Residential character along University.
- Victoria Theater = heritage building!
- Yes – many old car lots. We need theater.

Theme 2 – 90 Initiatives for the Corridor

How would you refine and/or elaborate on the improvements identified here?

- Put in more lighting along Victoria Street from 94 to Thomas. Also install emergency phones.
- More lighting – better security – good direction on where to go – more green planting, too many trees will be counterproductive to lighting.
- Improve ped/bike connections on Victoria.
- Like to see if alley will remain.

What additional improvements would you like to see around this station?

- 1. greening pedestrian realm and view stormwater as a resource instead of a waste: add trees, rainwater gardens, pervious pavers in pedestrian and parking realms. 2. Clean and independent energy by neighborhood and for neighborhoods. Solar energy harvesting (PV on buildings; for lighting; solar thermal opportunities). 3. Sunlight! Make taller buildings on north side of Avenue and shorter on south, to allow sun into street. Sunlight is critical in our short winter days.
- An entertainment venue. Reuse the Victoria Theatre at 825 University.
- Parking – parking – parking

- Green, lighting for safety.
- Noise control.

What adjectives would you use to describe the character of this area today? And in 20 years?

- Cultural enhancements – make this a “destination” to bring visitors/tourists to local restaurants and businesses. (Maybe stronger at Western station area.) Great opportunity to celebrate ethnic richness and diversity.
- A place for residents to walk to and a creation of a unique destination place. Restaurants/coffee shops.
- The station area will change the type of businesses. Small businesses will not survive on street that doesn’t have on street parking 20 years from now.
- Now: residential. 20 years: Cozy – has character, coffee shops, destination small restaurants, art galleries.
- Great housing, volatile business area (many businesses fail).
- Family like, bustling city.

What are the top 3 improvements that would make the greatest difference to this station area?

- 1. Rehab the Victoria Theatre. 2. Create an entertainment venue at 825 University.
- 1. Parking. 2. Pedestrian friendly. 3. Better security (better lighting, safer walk in neighborhood).
- 1. Bike/ped along Victoria. 2. U-haul redevelopment – include greenery, smaller scale (<4 stories). 3. Safety lighting – connect to Maxfield schools.
- Light, heat, security.

Theme 3 – Public Realm Framework

How would you get to this station on foot or by bicycle?

- On foot. (x3)
- Travel from south side of I-94 up Victoria.

What kind of public spaces should there be and where should these be located?

- Police presence – bicycle storage heated waiting area or gathering.
- U-Haul – include restaurants and plaza/outdoor eating.
- Limit to stop area to there is less non-transit loitering.
- On side streets, using parking lots already available.

Where should key pedestrian crossings be located?

- Where it is the most safe and slowest traffic speed – ped crossing should be raised and lit and at the intersection.
- Improve I-94 crossing experience. Ped crossings around school.
- Chatsworth.

Where should bicycle locks be located?

- On the four corners of the intersection. More on the side streets.
- Everywhere! N and S of Victoria – both racks and lockers.
- Where Midas auto lot is.
- Victoria at major intersection.

What are the three most important public realm improvements for the station area?

- Green – lighting – slower traffic speed and parking
- Community gardens.
- Remove paved empty lots; limit loitering; welcoming appearance to neighborhood.

- Noise reduction.

How could we make better connections south of I-94?

- Bicycle lanes – wider sidewalks. Better lighting – better security.
- Lighting, covered or protected for winter winds/weather.
- Widen Victoria bridge so sidewalk isn't right at traffic edge.
- Keeping side streets wider for parking or u-turns.

Theme 4 – Transit-Supportive Development Types

Are these the kinds of building and uses that you would like to see in the area of change around this station?

- The new transit system is going to dictate what is going to happen in the near future. More offices and medium companies are going to replace the retail stores.
- Yes! It would be great.
- Yes.

Can you imagine the proposed scale and height of the buildings being appropriate along the Avenue? What concerns do you have with respect to building height?

- We will not have high rises – six story building maximum should be allowed.
- At Victoria, 4 stories or less. Less density, but still an asset in community.
- Lower height near Univ/Victoria, higher near Dale and Lexington.
- I can look onto University. Like to continue.

What design features/functions of the buildings are important to you in creating a more beautiful urban place around this station area?

- Better lighted building more restaurant and entertainment and less of offices that are going to be shut down at night which in turn make the street like ghost town.
- Historic appearance. It should look like it was there in 1910.

Describe your feelings for recent development in the area. Do these represent good development types for the area? Why or why not?

- Yes, but it is going to be different development. Grocery store is not going to survive if there is no parking space right in front of it. Do [we] expect people to carry their groceries a block away to get to their car?
- Rondo library is nice. Western Bank is nice. Some of the newer low-income housing is ugly (bright colors and up-and-down, in-and-out exterior profiles... weird).
- Excited. I hope they are taking into consideration it is change.